artment of Telecom, and the same is applicable for the entire country including Mahanagar Telephone Nig-am Limited. This has been effected due to increased production and availability of the same at cheaper rates.

Developing Wind Power Sector

1356. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's atten tion has been drawn to an article by M/s. Neelam-Mathews in "Wind-power Monthly" from Denmark (Oc-tober-1988) which makes out a strong case for support t_0 their neg lected non-conventional power sec tor; and

(b) whether Government would en sure that wind energy se^{c}tor receives maximum attention in view of its great possibilities?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources has already taken steps to harness the potential for wind power generation in the country. Wind power projects of aggregate capacity 7.5 MW have been set up, and 14.2 million units of elec-tricity have already been fed to the respective State grids. Another 5.0 MW capacity is under installation. Turther projects of aggregate capacity 22.5 MW have been taken up for implementation. As the potential is large it is possible to achieve much higher capacity if sufficient funds are made available.

Gujarat Government's proposal for Power Generation fa Private Sector

1357. SHRI RAMSINH RATHVA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pie-ased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Goverrnment are considering the sugges-tion to allow private sector companies to enter the field of power generation, and/or transmission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(ic) whether it is also a fact that the Goverment of Gujarat proposes to float a joint company with Reliance Industries Limited °r their subsidiary power generation, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government have received any request from Government of Gujarat to clear such proposal, if so, what are the details thereof andl what i_s Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI); (a) and (b) The policy with regard to the generation and distribution of electricity continues to be regulated by the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956. The expansion of the existing privately owned utilities or the establishment of new units in the private sector is not precluded under the Resolution. The modalities for encouraging private sector participation i^{11} power generation are receiving the considerations of Government.

(c) and (d) No proposal has so far been received from the Govern-nent of Gujarat to float a joint company with M/s. Reliance Industries limited or their subsidiary for power feneration.

विद्युत उत्पादन की लागत

1358. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विद्युत उत्पा-दन की लागत में क्रमशः वृद्धि होने के संकेत मिल रहे हैं;